



CLEARING PERMIT

Granted under section 51E of the Environmental Protection Act 1986

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| Purpose Permit number: | 8170/1 |
| Duration of Permit: | From 12 January 2019 to 11 January 2024 |
| Permit Holder: | Roy Hill Iron Ore Pty Ltd |

The Permit Holder is authorised to clear native vegetation subject to the following conditions of this Permit.

PART I - CLEARING AUTHORISED

1. Land on which clearing is to be done

Miscellaneous Licence 47/642
Miscellaneous Licence 47/735

2. Purpose for which clearing may be done

Clearing for the purposes of hydrogeological investigation and associated activities.

3. Area of Clearing

The Permit Holder must not clear more than 75 hectares of native vegetation. All clearing must be within the areas cross-hatched yellow or shaded red on attached Plans 8170/1A and 8170/1B.

4. Type of Clearing Authorised

The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation unless the purpose for which the clearing is authorised is enacted within 3 months of the authorised clearing being undertaken.

5. Type of Clearing Authorised

The Permit Holder shall only clear native vegetation within the area shaded red on attached Plan 8170/1A for the purpose of access tracks.

6. Clearing Not Authorised

The Permit Holder shall not clear native vegetation within the area shaded blue on attached Plan 8170/1A.

7. Clearing Not Authorised – Habitat Trees

- (a) The Permit Holder shall not clear trees with a diameter, at 1.5 metres above the ground, of 500 millimetres or greater; and
- (b) Within the area shaded red on attached Plan 8170/1A the Permit Holder shall not clear:
 - (i) native vegetation within the *drip line* of trees identified in Condition 7(a), unless first approved by the CEO.

8. Application

This Permit allows the Permit Holder to authorise persons, including employees, contractors and agents of the Permit Holder, to clear native vegetation for the purposes of this Permit subject to compliance with the conditions of this Permit and approval from the Permit Holder.

PART II - MANAGEMENT CONDITIONS

9. Fauna management

- (a) Within two weeks prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to undertake *clearance surveys* for the greater bilby (*Macrotis lagotis*) and brush-tailed mulgara (*Dasymercus blythi*).
- (b) Where greater bilby and brush-tailed mulgara burrows are identified under Condition 9(a), the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to determine if the burrow is occupied.
- (c) Within two weeks prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a *fauna specialist* to relocate any greater bilby and brush-tailed mulgara found under Condition 9(a) and 9(b) of this permit.
- (d) The Permit Holder shall engage a fauna spotter to traverse the project area ahead of clearing machinery, at the time of clearing and alert machinery operators to avoid greater bilby and brush-tailed mulgara injury or mortality.
- (e) Where any greater bilby or brush-tailed mulgara are identified and relocated under Condition 9(a), 9(b), 9(c) and 9(d) of this Permit, the Permit Holder shall include the following in a report submitted to the CEO:
 - (i) the location of any evidence of greater bilby and brush-tailed mulgara recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;
 - (ii) the type of evidence recorded under Condition 9(e)(i) e.g. fauna individuals, burrows, scats, tracks;
 - (iii) the location and date where any greater bilby and brush-tailed mulgara was relocated using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;
 - (iv) the name of the *fauna specialist* that relocated the greater bilby and brush-tailed mulgara under Condition 9(c); and
 - (v) a copy of the fauna licence authorising the relocation of the greater bilby and brush-tailed mulgara under Condition 9(c).

10. Flora Management

- (a) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall engage a *botanist* to conduct a *targeted flora survey* of the areas to be cleared for the presence of the following *priority flora*:
 - (i) *Eremophila pilosa*
- (b) Prior to undertaking any clearing authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder shall provide the results of the *targeted flora survey* in a report to the CEO.
- (d) If *Eremophila pilosa* are identified within the areas to be cleared, the *targeted flora survey* report must include the following:
 - (i) the location of each *Eremophila pilosa* identified under condition 10(a) of this permit, either as of individual plants, or where this is not practical, the areal extent of the population and an estimate of plants, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees; and
 - (ii) the methodology, used to survey the permit area; and
- (e) Where *Eremophila pilosa* are identified under condition 10(a) of this permit, the Permit holder shall ensure that:
 - (i) no clearing of identified *Eremophila pilosa* occurs unless first approved by the CEO; and
 - (ii) no clearing occurs within 10 metres of identified *Eremophila pilosa* unless first approved by the CEO.

11. Vegetation Management

- (a) Where practicable the Permit Holder shall avoid clearing *riparian vegetation*; and
- (b) Where a *watercourse* or *drainage line* is to be impacted by clearing, the Permit Holder shall maintain the existing surface flow.

12. Weed control

When undertaking any clearing or other activity authorised under this Permit, the Permit Holder must take the following steps to minimise the risk of the introduction and spread of *weeds*:

- (i) clean earth-moving machinery of soil and vegetation prior to entering and leaving the area to be cleared;
- (ii) ensure that no *weed*-affected soil, *mulch*, *fill* or other material is brought into the area to be cleared; and
- (iii) restrict the movement of machines and other vehicles to the limits of the areas to be cleared.

PART III - RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

13. Records to be kept

The Permit Holder must maintain the following records for activities done pursuant to this Permit:

In relation to the clearing of native vegetation authorised under this Permit:

- (i) the location where the clearing occurred, recorded using a Global Positioning System (GPS) unit set to Geocentric Datum Australia 1994 (GDA94), expressing the geographical coordinates in Eastings and Northings or decimal degrees;
- (ii) the date that the area was cleared;
- (iii) the size of the area cleared (in hectares); and
- (iv) purpose for which clearing was undertaken.

14. Reporting

- (a) The Permit Holder shall provide a report to the General Manager Environmental Compliance, Resource and Environmental Compliance Division, Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety by 30 June each year for the life of this permit, demonstrating adherence to all conditions of this permit, and setting out the records required under Condition 13 of this permit in relation to clearing carried out between 1 January and 31 December of the previous financial year.
- (b) Prior to 4 January 2024, the Permit Holder must provide to the General Manager Environmental Compliance, Resource and Environmental Compliance Division, Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety a written report of records required under Condition 13 of this Permit where these records have not already been provided under Condition 14(a) of this Permit.

DEFINITIONS

The following meanings are given to terms used in this Permit:

botanist means a person who holds a tertiary qualification in environmental science or equivalent, and has a minimum of 2 years work experience in identification and surveys of flora native to the bioregion being inspected or surveyed, or who is approved by the *CEO* as a suitable botanist for the bioregion;

CEO means the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation or an Officer with delegated authority under Section 20 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*;

clearance survey/s means a search of immediate impact areas prior to clearing to locate fauna. The clearance survey should focus on locating burrows, recent foraging signs, fresh tracks and scats.

drainage line means a natural depression that carries surface water runoff;

drip line means a line encircling a tree corresponding to the furthest extension of the branches and canopy of a tree;

fauna specialist means a person who holds a tertiary qualification specializing in environmental science or equivalent, and has a minimum of 2 years work experience in fauna identification and surveys of fauna native to the region being inspected or surveyed, or who is approved by the *CEO* as a suitable fauna specialist for the bioregion, and who holds a valid fauna licence issued under the *Wildlife Conservation Act 1950*;

fill means material used to increase the ground level, or fill a hollow;

habitat tree(s) means trees that have a diameter, measured at 1.5 metres from the base of the tree, of 50 centimetres or greater, that contains or has the potential to develop hollows or roosts suitable for native fauna;

mulch means the use of organic matter, wood chips or rocks to slow the movement of water across the soil surface and to reduce evaporation;

priority flora means those plant taxa described as priority flora classes 1, 2, 3 or 4 in the *Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attraction's Threatened and Priority Flora List for Western Australia* (as amended);

rehabilitate/ed/ion means actively managing an area containing native vegetation in order to improve the ecological function of that area;

revegetate/ed/ion means the re-establishment of a cover of local provenance native vegetation in an area using methods such as natural regeneration, direct seeding and/or planting, so that the species composition, structure and density is similar to pre-clearing vegetation types in that area;

riparian vegetation has the meaning given to it in Regulation 3 of the Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004;

targeted flora survey means a field-based investigation, including a review of established literature, of the biodiversity of flora and vegetation of the Permit Area, focusing on habitat suitable for flora species that are being targeted and carried out during the optimal time to identify those species. Where target flora are identified in the Permit Area, the survey should also include sufficient surrounding areas to place the Permit Area into local context;

watercourse has the meaning given to it in section 3 of the *Rights in Water and Irrigation Act 1914*;

weed/s means any plant -

- (a) that is a declared pest under section 22 of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*; or
- (b) published in a Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions Regional Weed Rankings Summary, regardless of ranking; or
- (c) not indigenous to the area concerned.



Daniel Endacott
General Manager Environmental Compliance
Resource and Environmental Compliance Division
20 December 2018

Officer with delegated authority under Section 20
of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*